

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A liquid ejection head, comprising:
a metallic chamber formation plate, having a first region in which a plurality of pressure generating chambers are formed, and a second region in which a plurality of dents are formed, wherein each of the dents prevents ink from flowing therein; and
a metallic nozzle plate, formed with a plurality of nozzles, the nozzle plate joined to the chamber formation plate such that each of the nozzles is communicated with one of the pressure generating chambers.
2. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein the dents are formed on at least one of main faces of the chamber formation plate.
3. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 2, wherein a position of one of the dents formed on one main face of the chamber formation plate is made coincident with a position of one of the dents formed on the other main face of the chamber formation plate, when viewed from one of the main faces.
4. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein each of the dents has a pyramidal shape.
5. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein each of the dents has a conical shape.
6. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein a size of each of the dents is not greater than a thickness of the chamber formation plate.

7. (currently amended): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein each of dents is formed at a portion ~~where is~~ away from the first region by a distance not less than a thickness of the chamber formation plate.

8. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein the dents are arranged with an interval which is substantially equal to a thickness of the chamber formation plate.

9. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein the chamber formation plate is comprised of nickel.

10. (currently amended): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein the first region is located at a center portion of the chamber formation ~~chamber plate while being and~~ is surrounded by the second region.

11. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 10, wherein the dents are formed at positions opposed to each other with the first region between.

12. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein the pressure generating chamber are arranged with an interval which is not greater than 0.3mm.

13. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein the first region and the second region are partly overlapped at a third region adjacent to both longitudinal ends of the pressure generating chambers.

14. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 13, wherein the dents in the third region are arranged with a fixed pitch which is two to five times as great as a pitch of which the pressure generating chamber is arranged side by side.

15. (original): The liquid ejection head as set forth in claim 1, wherein the second region is provided with a length which is two to five times as great as a pitch of which the pressure generating chamber is arranged side by side.

16. (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a liquid ejection apparatus, comprising steps of:

- providing a metal board;
- subjecting the metal board to a plastic working to form a plurality of recesses on a first face in a first region of the metal board;
- punching through holes so as to communicate the recesses and a second face of the metal board;
- subjecting the metal board to a plastic working to form a plurality of dents in a second region of the metal board;
- joining a metallic sealing plate onto the first face of the metal board so as to seal the recesses; and
- joining a metallic nozzle plate formed with nozzles, onto the second face of the metal board, such that each of the nozzles is communicated with one of the through holes.

17. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method as set forth in claim 16, wherein the dents are so formed as to extend in a thickness direction of the metal board.

18. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method as set forth in claim 16, wherein the dents are formed on one of the first face and the second face which has been an inner side of the metal board curved by the plastic working for forming the recesses.

19. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method as set forth in claim 18, wherein the dents are formed on both of the first face and the second face.

20. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method as set forth in claim 16, further comprising a step of polishing the metal board so as to leave the dents thereon, before the sealing plate and the nozzle plate are joined to the metal board.

21. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method as set forth in claim 20, wherein the metal board and the sealing plate are joined with adhesive agent, while excess adhesive agent is received by the dents.

22. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method as set forth in claim 21, wherein the first region and the second region are so arranged as to partly overlap at a third region adjacent to both longitudinal ends of the recesses.

23. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method as set forth in claim 16, wherein the plastic working for forming the dents are performed before the plastic working for forming the recesses.

24. (withdrawn): The manufacturing method as set forth in claim 20, wherein the dents are formed such that a polished amount in the first region and a polished amount of the second region are made identical.

25. (new): A liquid head, comprising:
a metallic chamber formation plate, having a first region in which a plurality of pressure generating chambers and a recess portion associated with plurality of pressure generating chambers and a recess portion associated with a reservoir communicated with the pressure generating chambers are formed, and a second region in which a plurality of dents are formed;
and

a metallic nozzle plate, formed with a plurality of nozzles, the nozzle plate joined to the chamber formation plate such that each of the nozzles is communicated with one of the pressure generating chambers.